



THE
COLONIAL
PLAYERS

OF ANNAPOLIS



2021 / 2022 season

SEASON 73 IS OUR VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY!

We will traverse the globe, exploring locales across North America, Europe and beyond, and along the way we'll discover stories of revolution, redemption, and revelation.

Our travels begin in Paris at the height of the French Revolution's Reign of Terror. In **Lauren Gunderson's** dream-tweaked comedy, **The Revolutionists**, we meet four beautiful, bad-ass women: playwright Olympe de Gouges, Caribbean spy Marianne Angelle, assassin Charlotte Corday, and former queen Marie Antoinette. This is a revolution like no other.

By The Way, Meet Vera Stark is our second show of the season. From the Golden Age of Hollywood, **Lynn Nottage** shines the spotlight on Vera, a determined maid and aspiring starlet. Vera's life is transformed when she's cast in a trailblazing role... in a movie starring her boss. This spritely, sly satire is a journey through Vera's seventy-year life and a sharp take on race and culture — both in the past and today.

For the holiday season, and an Annapolis tradition, **Richard Wade and Dick Gessner's** family musical **A Christmas Carol** transports us to a cold December in London, where we witness Ebenezer Scrooge's realization of the true meaning of Christmas.

In January we head to Neverland, via Scotland, to meet the man behind Peter Pan. **The Lost Boy** by **Ron Paolillo** is a heartwarming, fictionalized story, following author James Barrie and the tragic forces that drove the creation of his many beloved characters.

Suspitions and questions force three women to re-examine the meaning of faith and the power of love in **John Pielmeier's** dramatic 1979 play, **Agnes of God**. This exploration of faith and memory leads to a dramatic, and compelling climax.

Spring brings us the family friendly **Freaky Friday**. The Disney musical version of Mary Rodgers' beloved book has an overworked mother and her teenage daughter magically swapping bodies, and they have just one day to put things right again. What could possibly go wrong... Written by **Bridget Carpenter** and Music and Lyrics by **Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey**, this show is heartfelt, comedic, and unexpectedly emotional.

For our final destination of the season, we head back to England for **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**. Based on the book by **Mark Haddon**, this play by Simon Stephens follows fifteen-year-old Christopher, who is exceptionally intelligent but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. When he falls under suspicion for killing his neighbor's dog, he sets out to identify the true culprit, which leads to an earth-shattering discovery and a journey that will change his life forever.

We hope you'll join us on our journeys through time and space, for this is a season you won't want to miss!

The Revolutionists

SEPTEMBER 10 - OCTOBER 2, 2021

Written by Lauren Gunderson

Directed by Jennifer Cooper

Our travels begin in Paris at the height of the French Revolution's Reign of Terror. It's 1793, and time to meet four beautiful, bad-ass women: former queen Marie Antoinette, assassin Charlotte Corday, playwright Olympe de Gouges, and Caribbean spy Marianne Angelle. This grand and dream-tweaked comedy is about violence and legacy, art and activism, feminism and terrorism, and compatriots and chosen sisters. The jury's still out on who really runs the world, but these four ladies sure as hell changed it.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
SEP.		10	11	12	M
	16	17	18	19	M
	23	24	25	26	M
	30				
OCT.		01	02		

By the Way, Meet Vera Stark

OCTOBER 22 - NOVEMBER 13, 2021

Written by Lynn Nottage

Directed by Eleanore Tapscott

Our second show of the season takes us to the Golden Age of Hollywood and shines the spotlight on Vera Stark, a headstrong African American maid and aspiring starlet. Vera's life is transformed when she's cast in a trailblazing role... in a movie starring her boss. Decades later scholars and historians grapple with Vera's legacy in Hollywood and the impact race had on her controversial career. This spritely, sly satire is a journey through Vera's seventy-year life and a sharp take on race and culture — both in the past and today.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
OCT.		22	23	24	M
	28	29	30	31	M
NOV.		04	05	06	M
	10	11	12	13	M



The Children, 2020. Photo by Alison Harbaugh

A Christmas Carol

Play and Lyrics by Richard Wade

Music by Richard Gessner

Directed by Sarah Wade

From sunny California we venture to a cold December in London, where we witness Ebenezer Scrooge's realization of the true meaning of Christmas. The Colonial Players is delighted to bring this

Dicken's classic back

to the stage. Written

for the Players in 1981

by Richard Wade and

Dick Gessner, this year's

production will be

directed by Richard's daughter, Sarah, who has grown up with this phenomenally popular gift to the community.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
DEC.	02 8 pm	03 7 pm	04 9 pm	05 2 4:30 pm
	09 8 pm	10 7 pm	11 9 pm	12 2 4:30 pm

***A Christmas Carol* is not part of the subscription season and subject to special ticket pricing.**

Tickets will go on sale November 20, 2021



The Lost Boy

JANUARY 14 - FEBRUARY 5, 2022

Written by Ron Paolillo

Directed by Joe Thompson

From London we head north to Scotland and meet the man behind Peter Pan. This heartwarming, fictionalized story follows author James Barrie and the forces that drove the creation of his many beloved characters. Haunted by the tragic loss of his older brother, James slowly begins to confront his family's tragic past through storytelling, an unexpected friendship, and the dream of finding Neverland.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
JAN.		14	15	16	M
	20	21	22	23	M
	27	28	29	30	M
FEB.	03	04	05		

Agnes of God

FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 19, 2022

Written by John Pielmeier

Directed by Jeff Sprague

Our next venture takes us on an exploration of faith and memory. Court-appointed psychiatrist Martha Livingstone is tasked with assessing the sanity of a novice accused of murdering her newborn. Livingstone's suspicions deepen as the mother superior keeps the young nun from the doctor.

Who killed the infant, and who fathered the tiny victim? The doctor's questions force all three women to re-examine the meaning of faith and the power of love, leading to a dramatic, compelling climax.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
FEB.		25	26	27	M
MAR.	03	04	05	06	
	10	11	12	13	M
	17	18	19		M

Freaky Friday

APRIL 8 - MAY 8, 2022

Written by Bridget Carpenter
Music and Lyrics by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey
Directed by Ron Giddings and Kaitlin Fish

Time to liven things up! When an overworked mother and her teenage daughter magically swap bodies, they have just one day to put things right again. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another's struggles, learn self-acceptance, and realize the immeasurable love and mutual respect that bond a mother and daughter. This joyous Disney musical version of Mary Rodgers' beloved book is heartfelt, comedic, and unexpectedly emotional.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
APR.		08	09	10 <small>M</small>
	14	15	16	DARK
	21	22	23	24 <small>M</small>
	28	29	30	<small>M</small>
MAY				01 <small>M</small>
	05	06	07	08 <small>M</small>

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

JUNE 3 - 25, 2022

Written by Simon Stephens
Based on the book by Mark Haddon
Directed by Eric Lund

For our final destination of the season, we head back to England and meet fifteen-year-old Christopher. He is exceptionally intelligent but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. When he falls under suspicion for killing his neighbor's dog, he sets out to identify the true culprit, which leads to an earth-shattering discovery and a journey that will change his life forever. Christopher's story examines what it truly means to love, and the sacrifices it often takes to do so.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
JUNE		03	04	05 <small>M</small>
	09	10	11	12 <small>M</small>
	16	17	18	19 <small>M</small>
	23	24	25	



The Colonial Players celebrates our 72nd



A New Brain, 2019. Photo by Colburn Images

Season 72 may have been small, but it was mighty!

We had a summer of love to celebrate the light returning to the world and our stage. With themes of learning to love again, and reflections on the joys and challenges of life, audiences from far and wide were able to enjoy passionate, compelling art, even from the comfort of home thanks to some innovative technology and a lot of volunteer help. CP is 100% volunteer and we welcome your support and participation, whether onstage, backstage, ushering, staffing the Box Office, or buying tickets! Our patrons' financial support helps pay the bills and their applause makes everything we do worthwhile.

Season of Great Community Theater

Have you heard about The Colonial Players FlexTicket?

For the same cost per seat as a subscription, you may purchase CP's 10-Seat FlexTicket which you may use for any combination of shows and seats you choose through the end of the season. They are transferable so that your friends and kids may use yours. FlexTicket users may order their tickets by phone (410-268-7373), via email (boxoffice@thecolonialplayers.org), or in person at the Box Office. When shows are sold out, FlexTicket holders have the added advantage of being able to order standby tickets by phone, on the same day as the show, up to an hour before curtain time. FlexTicket Standbys who have ordered by phone will be seated before regular standby ticket holders.

FlexTickets are available for Adults for \$19 per ticket and for Seniors, Students, and active Military for \$15 per ticket. FlexTickets are purchased in blocks of 10 tickets.

TICKETING AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Show Times

8:00 pm Thursday, Friday, Saturday
2:00 pm Sunday

Box Office

Phone: 410-268-7373

Email: boxoffice@thecolonialplayers.org

The Box Office is open one hour before curtain time on performance days.

The Box Office is also open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before Opening Night from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

Tickets may be purchased online at our website thecolonialplayers.org at any time or call us at 410-268-7373 and leave a message.

Will Call tickets will be held for patrons at the Box Office until show time.

Patrons may also choose Print At Home or Mobile Ticket delivery.

Subscription/Flex Ticket Prices

\$19 Adults

\$15 Seniors 65+ / Fulltime Students/Military

FlexTickets for 10 seats may be used for any combination of shows and seats until the end of the season. The Box Office will keep track of use and punch the FlexTicket as the seats are used. Ticket orders must be placed through the Box Office, not on the web. FlexTickets are transferable. Senior/Student/Military FlexTickets must be used by seniors, students, or Military patrons.

Subscribers may exchange their tickets in person, by phone, by mail, or email at boxoffice@thecolonialplayers.org. **In order to receive new tickets in exchange, the Box Office must be notified 48 hours before performance time.**

The Colonial Players does not issue refunds. Unused tickets may be returned to the Box Office for a tax-deductible donation receipt. FlexTickets expire at the end of the season. There will be no refunds on unused seats of the FlexTicket.

A NOTE TO OUR AUDIENCES:

As with most contemporary plays, many of our shows this season contain contemporary language and situations which The Colonial Players believes should be viewed and heard as the playwright intended within the context of the scripted story. **The Colonial Players, Inc. reserves the right to change season offerings if necessary.**

Single Ticket Prices

\$23 Adults

\$18 Seniors 65+ / Fulltime Students/Military

Single tickets may be purchased in person at the Box Office, by mail, by phone, or at our website, thecolonialplayers.org. Tickets ordered by phone or online must be purchased using MasterCard, Visa, or Discover credit cards. Checks and cash are also accepted at the Box Office by mail or in person. With the exception of Standby tickets, **all single (non-subscription) ticket purchases are final. Exchanges and refunds are not permitted on single ticket sales. FlexTicket reservations may not be changed within 48 hours of performance time.**

Seats are guaranteed only until curtain time.

As we are a theater in the round, latecomers may have to wait to be seated until an appropriate break in the performance and at the discretion of the Stage Manager. A television monitor in the lobby allows late patrons to view the performance. Please allow plenty of time for parking in the crowded downtown area. It is very difficult for us to seat latecomers.

Standby tickets are sold one hour prior to performance time in person, on a first-come, first-serve basis. If standby seats are unavailable, purchasers' money will be returned immediately. FlexTicket holders may call on the same day of the show up to an hour before curtain time to reserve a priority standby seat.

Wheelchair space is available at most performances with advance notice. Order online or call the Box Office at 410-268-7373 at least one hour before curtain time.

Gift certificates for tickets are available at the Box Office.

Become a supporter!

Subscribers providing additional support to The Colonial Players are listed in each show's program. In addition, donors at the level of Designer or above will be invited to purchase a limited number of A Christmas Carol tickets before the public sale on November 20, 2021.

OUR HISTORY

The Colonial Players was founded by a group of Annapolitans dedicated to bringing high quality theater to what was then a sleepy town on the Chesapeake. As Annapolis has grown, so has the theater, continuing to thrive with a dedicated corps of volunteers and a loyal subscriber base.

The history of The Colonial Players is intertwined with the rhythms and pace of downtown Annapolis. From its humble beginnings in the old Annapolis Recreation Center near City Dock to its current home at the foot of State Circle, The Colonial Players continues its mission to entertain and educate, bringing the dramatic arts to the heart of the city.

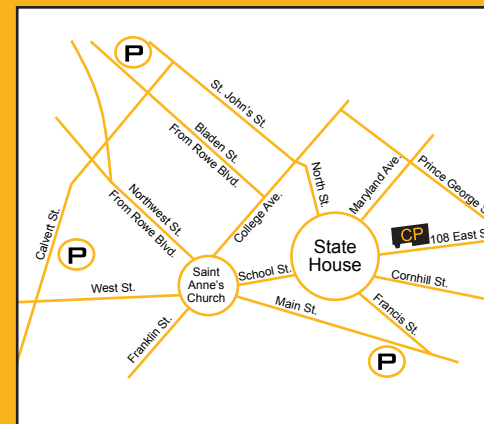
The theater's curtain first rose in 1949 with a production of James Thurber's slapstick comedy *The Male Animal*. Six years later, The Colonial Players purchased an old car repair shop on East Street, and through the years this site has been

remodeled and expanded into the 180-seat arena theatre patrons and actors alike enjoy today.

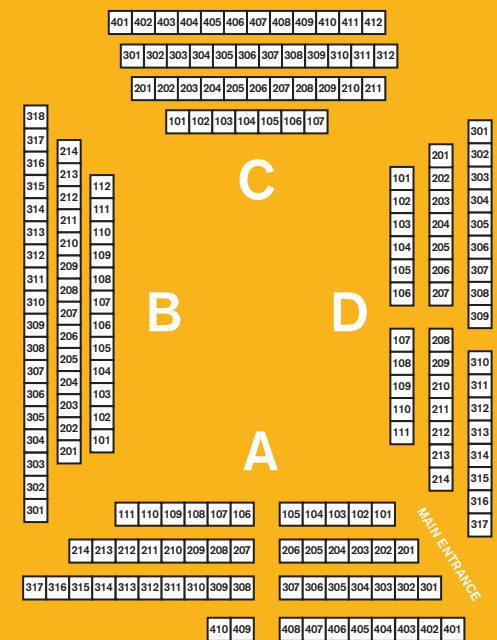
From Shakespeare to Noel Coward to Stephen Sondheim, The Colonial Players audiences have enjoyed a wide range of performances. Experimental theater, theater for children, works by new playwrights, one-act play festivals, an array of workshops, and our annual Christmas production fulfill our mission to entertain, educate, and enrich our community through the dramatic arts.

The Colonial Players is proud of its place in Annapolis history, and we invite you to take part. Whether as a theatergoer, subscriber, or volunteer, actor, director, or playwright, join us as we continue to make theater in 360° a vibrant part of Annapolis.

WHERE WE ARE



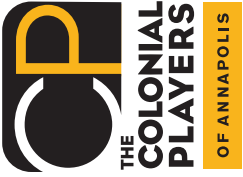
SEATING CHART



Cover Photo: *Arsenic and Old Lace*, 2019

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